NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending August 28, 1994

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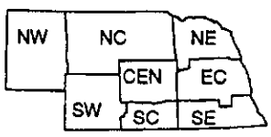
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged three to seven degrees above normals. Precipitation varied from traces in the northwest up to one inch in the east central.

GENERAL

Hot, dry weather last week accelerated the maturity progress but stressed dryland crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation systems were operating in several areas in an attempt to maximize yields. The weather conditions stressed dryland crops and brought about producer concerns of reduced yield potential in those fields. Storms this past week brought some damaging wind, hail, and/or heavy rain to areas of the west, southwest, and eastern districts. Other producer activities included weed control, hay harvest, readying grain bins and harvest equipment, and moving farm-stored grain to market.

CROPS

Corn condition was rated at 1% poor, 14% fair, 69% good, and 16% excellent. Plant development continued at a faster than average pace. Corn was reaching the dent stage about a week and a half ahead of the 5-year average. Irrigation systems were in use in several areas. Corn harvest was underway for seed corn, high moisture corn for grain, and for silage. Producers expect corn for grain harvest to be underway about mid-September.

Soybean condition was rated at 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 70% good, and 5% excellent, a decline from the previous week. Leaves were turning color about a week ahead of the 5-year average with some fields experiencing leaves dropping. The southwest district was the most advanced. Hand weeding continued.

CROPS (Cont.)

Sorghum condition was rated at 1% poor, 9% fair, 79% good, and 11% excellent. Hot, dry weather pushed maturity last week. Coloring, at 68%, was about two weeks ahead of the average. Weeds and grasses continued to be a problem in many fields.

Dry bean condition was rated at 25% fair, 70% good, and 5% excellent. The hot, dry weather was pushing maturity with harvest off to a limited start.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 3% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, and 62% good. Third cutting activities progressed to 79% complete by week's end with some fourth cutting activities occurring in the east central. Limited rainfall has reduced regrowth for both third and fourth cuttings in several areas. Wild hay condition was rated at 3% very poor, 6% poor, 40% fair, 44% good, and 7% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 84% of normal and compares with 102% last year. Pastures declined last week due to the hot, dry weather. Most areas did see a reduced condition with some areas poor enough to require supplemental hay for cattle. Still, some areas which have received moisture continue to have grass regrowth with good grazing potential. Rainfall is needed in most areas.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 28, 1994	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dough stage	86	100	100	100	100	100	100	99	99	96	68	85
% corn dented	29	46	66	57	84	84	87	92	73	49	20	40
% corn mature	0	1	1	1	7	12	6	5	5	1	0	3
% sorghum turning color	0	26	31	56	72	90	73	67	68	26	10	28
% sorghum mature	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	0	0	2
% soybeans turning color	0	29	8	44	36	81	32	18	24	8	0	10
% soybeans dropping leaves	0	6	0	4	5	12	3	4	3	0	0	2
% alfalfa third cutting	43	43	83	100	91	100	100	91	79	64	42	64
% dry beans turning	70	100	75	0	0	93	71	0	76	32	36	n/a
% dry beans dropping leaves	22	70	45	0	0	58	55	0	33	0	n/a	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 26, 1994												
Days suitable	6.9	6.4	5.5	6.4	6.3	5 6	7.0	6.3	6.3	6 7	5.7	
Topsoil moisture - Short	93	92	69	71	86	71	83	60	80	61	16	
(Percent) - Adequate	7	8	23	29	14	29	17	40	19	39	78	
- Surplus	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	
Subsoil moisture - Short	67	46	15	43	23	57	23	53	39	29	1	
(Percent) - Adequate	33	54	85	57	77	43	77	47	61	70	89	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	

n/a = not available

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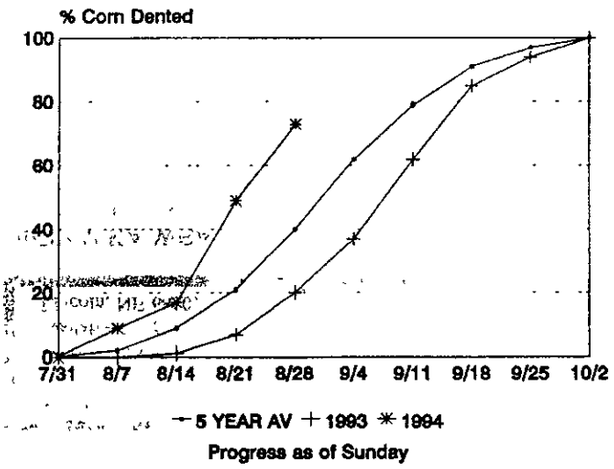
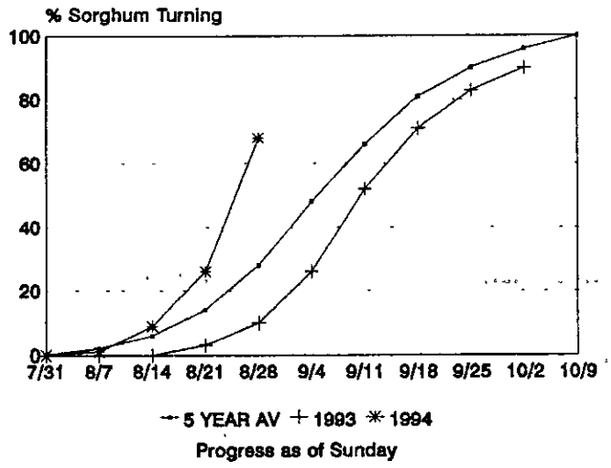
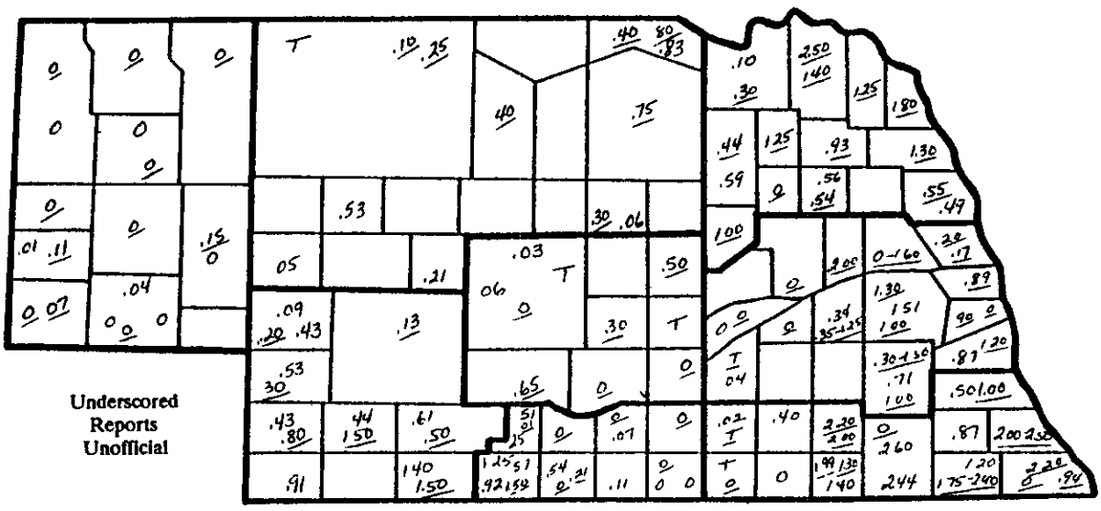


SORGHUM TURNING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 1994



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 26, 1994

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	01	.28	.44	.02	.58	.61	.42	.94
Total since April 1	8.26	14.16	14.01	15 52	18 35	11.47	15.42	16.65
Normal since April 1	11 61	14.20	16.32	15 33	17 40	12.97	15.46	18.14
Total as % of normal	71%	100%	86%	101%	105%	88%	100%	92%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1994

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	103	53	79	---	0	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	102	55	76	+7	0	2223	2370	2234
	Sidney	99	54	76	---	T	2144	2298	2059
NC	Valentine	101	53	77	+7	.11	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	2119	2272	2099
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	2135	2281	2359
NE	Norfolk	96	58	75	+4	59	---	---	---
	Sioux City	92	56	75	+4	.59	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	2168	2322	2424
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	2198	2358	2374
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	2310	2466	2496
CEN	Grand Island	99	60	77	+5	.08	---	---	---
	Ord	98	56	75	---	0	2284	2443	2382
	Wood River	---	---	---	---	---	2355	2520	2599
EC	Lincoln	96	54	76	+3	1 04	2554	2735	2693
	Omaha	96	57	77	+5	.41	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	2364	2528	2607
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	2358	2519	2588
	Rising City	---	---	---	---	---	2339	2502	2551
SW	Imperial	101	60	78	---	.52	---	---	---
	North Platte	101	56	76	+6	.33	2239	2389	2311
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	2474	2645	2539
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2405	2573	2513
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	2464	2635	2568
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2464	2634	2605
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2388	2555	2559

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.